



STUDENT ASSESSMENT NEWS

January 29, 2016

[Archived Student Assessment News](#)

CTStudentAssessment@ct.gov

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District Test Coordinator Workshops

Thank you to everyone who attended the District Test Coordinator Workshops. The two presentations used are available online.

- [District Test Coordinator presentation](#)
- [Connecticut SAT Test Center Supervisor Training presentation](#)

Overview of Accommodations Submissions

Beginning with the 2015-16 school year, Designated Supports and Accommodations for students identified as special education, Section 504 and English learners (ELs) are set directly in the [Test Information Distribution Engine \(TIDE\)](#). The Learner Characteristics Inventory is entered into the [Data Entry Interface](#) on [Connecticut Alternate Assessment Portal](#). Listed below are the accommodations submission dates.

Assessment	Accommodations/Special Accommodations Submission Deadline
Connecticut SAT School Day Option 1: College Board Accommodations College Reportable Scores and State Accountability	February 8, 2016
Connecticut SAT School Day Option 2: Connecticut Specific Accommodations Scores for State Accountability Only	February 15, 2016
CMT/CAPT Science	February 15, 2016
CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Connecticut Alternate Assessment Learner Characteristics Inventory	February 15, 2016 *Special Accommodations are not applicable.
Smarter Balanced Assessments	March 4, 2016

System Updates for Online Testing

Mac OS X 10.11 is now supported for online testing. A [new secure browser](#) is required for the test to fully function with the new OS.

Support for iOS 9.0 - 9.1 will be removed by March 1, 2016. iPads that are currently running iOS 9.0 - 9.1 must be updated to iOS 9.2 by March 1, 2016. American Institutes for Research will continue to support iOS 7 and 8.

A complete list of [supported browsers](#) is located on the Connecticut Portal. Operating systems that become available are not supported if they do not appear on the list of supported browsers. Do not upgrade to new operating systems on computers that will be used to administer online assessments without ensuring the updates meet the required specifications.

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Connecticut SAT School Day

Admission Tickets

On test day, students will not need to present a photo ID nor print their own admission ticket. Admission tickets will be shipped to schools for all students to use on test day.

Accommodations for English Learners

English learners (ELs) are eligible to receive a limited number of accommodations on the Connecticut SAT School Day which will result in college reportable scores. Use the following procedure to register ELs for accommodations.

All ELs are registered by the Services for Students with Disabilities (SSD) Coordinator to receive accommodations in the [SSD Online System](#). Currently, the accommodations are not visible in the SSD Online system. The SSD Online System will be updated in early February to include accommodations for ELs. However, requests may be submitted prior to this update by submitting a request for accommodations and designating both the disability and requested accommodation as "other."

When "other" is selected, a text box will appear that allows the user to type in the specific request.

- For "Disability," type in "Not disabled – English Language Learner"
- For "Accommodation," type in the specific request (e.g., Translated Instructions – Spanish).

When the SSD Online System asks for documentation, upload the [Connecticut SAT SSD Form](#).

Contact Joe Amenta (860-713-6855 or Joseph.Amenta@ct.gov) or Janet Stuck (860-713-6837 or Janet.Stuck@ct.gov) with questions.

Breaks Accommodation Information

The College Board provides three different types of standard breaks which can be requested by the SSD Coordinator as an accommodation for students with disabilities. Break time does not count as testing time. They are:

- **Extra Breaks:** At scheduled times, students with this accommodation are given additional breaks of a standard length (usually 5 minutes).
- **Extended Breaks:** Students with this accommodation receive the same number of breaks as standard test-takers, but these breaks are longer than standard breaks. In most cases, such extended breaks are for twice the standard length.
- **Breaks as Needed:** Breaks are granted as requested by the student. The student notifies the proctor and the timing of this student's test must stop. When the student is ready to continue, the student again notifies the proctor, and the timing will resume.

Connecticut SAT School Day Resources

Connecticut SAT School Day resources are available on the CSDE Web site (www.ct.gov/sde/SAT).

- **New:** Frequently Asked Questions for Families and Students [English](#) [Spanish](#)
- **New:** [Connecticut SAT Test Center Supervisor Training presentation](#)

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Connecticut Smarter Balanced

Summative Assessment Test Administration Manuals

The Connecticut Smarter Balanced [Summative Assessment Test Coordinator's Manual](#) and [Test Administration Manual](#) are available on the Connecticut Portal. These manuals will be shipped to districts/schools in early February.

Clarification on Text-to-Speech Test Setting Options for Smarter Balanced

ELA

Test Setting Option	Explanation
Items	Designated Support –Does NOT include reading passages.
Passages & Items	Accommodation for Special Education or Section 504 students identified to have ELA passages read to them by Text to Speech.* * Requires the completion of Text-to-Speech and Read Aloud Decision Guidelines 2015-2016 Form

ELPT (ELA Performance Task)

Test Setting Option	Explanation
Stimulus & Items	Designated Support

Mathematics

Test Setting Option	Explanation
Stimulus & Items	Designated Support

Interim Assessment

The Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment for mathematics and English language arts/literacy is available for administration to students in Grades 3 – 8. The Interim Assessment is one of the three components of the Smarter Balanced Assessment System—along with the end-of-year summative assessment in ELA/literacy and mathematics and a Digital Library of formative assessment tools and practices that supports classroom instruction.

Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Test Administration Resources:

- [Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment Test Administration Manual](#)
- [How to Activate a Test Session for the Interim Assessments](#)

The Interim Comprehensive Assessment and the Interim Assessment Blocks contain test items that are scored by the test delivery engine. There are also short-text constructed response and full-write items, both of which are hand scored at the district level. Scoring materials are available on the [Teacher Hand Scoring System](#). In-depth [Interim Assessment Workshops](#) about the purpose, uses, and scoring of the Interim Assessment are being presented across the state.

Information about the Smarter Balanced Interim Assessment is available on the [CSDE Web site](#).



DIGITAL LIBRARY

Digital Library Factsheet

The [Smarter Balanced Digital Library Factsheet](#) has been updated. This factsheet outlines the innovative design and collaboration features of the Digital Library. It also contains information about Spotlight Webinars presented by national experts and innovative practitioners.

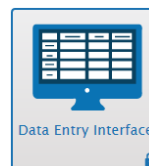
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Connecticut Alternate Assessments and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science

CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklists Science Eligibility & Learner Characteristics Inventory

The [CTAA and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklists Science Eligibility & Learner Characteristics Inventory \(LCI\)](#) is required to register eligible Grades 3 – 8 and 11 students with significant cognitive disabilities for the alternate assessments. The LCI is submitted through the [Data Entry Interface \(DEI\)](#) on [Connecticut Alternate Assessment Portal](#).



LCI & the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Submission Process Update

At the CSDE 2015-16 Connecticut Alternate Assessment and CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Training, participants were told they:

- may print the LCI,
- must print and sign the Rater Certification page of the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science, and
- place the printed CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science in the student cumulative folder until the final reports are received by the district.

However, for the 2015-16 school year, the print function is not available in the DEI. Therefore, each Test Administrator must:

- submit and carefully review the data and
- place the working copy of the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science in the student's cumulative folder until the student report is received by the district.

CTAA & CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Training

Teachers are required to be trained to administer the CTAA and the CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science. The [Online 2015-2016 CSDE CTAA & CMT/CAPT Skills Checklist Science Training](#) will remain available until March 1, 2016.

CMT/CAPT Science

Science Test Administration Manuals

The following CMT and CAPT Science Test Administration Manuals are available on the [Connecticut Assessment Portal](#). These manuals will be shipped to districts/schools.

- [CMT Science Test Coordinator's Manual](#)
- CMT Science Test Examiner's Manual: [Grade 5](#) and [Grade 8](#)
- [CAPT Science Test Coordinator's Manual](#)
- [CAPT Science Test Examiner's Manual](#)

Clarification on Text-to-Speech Test Settings Options for CMT/CAPT Science

Test Setting Option	Explanation
Passages & Items	allowable for students who are Special Education/Section 504 or English learners* * Students who receive the text-to-speech, computer response test mode, or speech-to-text accommodation for the CMT or CAPT Science must have the Online test mode selected in the TIDE test settings. Refer to the Marking a Student as an Online Tester for the CMT/CAPT Science brochure for information.

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[Register for email updates](#)

To automatically receive the *Student Assessment News* and/or other announcements, [register for e-mail updates](#) on the Comprehensive Assessment Program Portal.

The Connecticut State Department of Education is committed to a policy of equal opportunity/affirmative action for all qualified persons. The Connecticut State Department of Education does not discriminate in any employment practice, education program, or educational activity on the basis of **race, color, religious creed, sex, age, national origin, ancestry, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, disability (including, but not limited to, intellectual disability, past or present history of mental disorder, physical disability or learning disability), genetic information, or any other basis prohibited by Connecticut state and/or federal nondiscrimination laws. The Connecticut State Department of Education does not unlawfully discriminate in employment and licensing against qualified persons with a prior criminal conviction.** Inquiries regarding the Connecticut State Department of Education's nondiscrimination policies should be directed to:

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